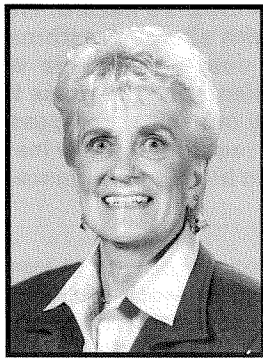


# Hammerstrom's

## for the people in the 17th Senate District

# Hotline



State Senator  
**Bev Hammerstrom**  
State Capitol • Lansing, MI 48913  
1-888-477-8238  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/hammerstrom](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/hammerstrom)

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**REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED** Whether in a quiet reflection or public ceremony, this week we pause to remember and honor the sacrifices of America's true heroes, our nation's veterans. November 11 is Veterans Day, a day to remember the nearly 25 million veterans who have answered our nation's call to duty in the quest for peace and freedom here and around the world. The challenges and threats we face in a new century have given us renewed appreciation for the bravery and honor of our soldiers. As citizens of the world's greatest democracy, we owe our very freedom to those who have demonstrated their love of country through a willingness to serve. This Veterans Day, please take a moment to remember to thank a veteran for keeping our nation strong and free.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Veterans Day was known as "Armistice Day," a day to honor our nation's World War I heroes. In 1954, the holiday was changed to Veterans Day and President Eisenhower urged Americans to pay tribute to those who served in all wars.

**DEER FIREARM SEASON OPENS NEXT WEEK** November 15 marks the opening of firearm deer season in Michigan. In the last decade, the distribution of the statewide deer population has shifted with an increasing proportion found in southern Michigan. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) officials would like to encourage hunters to take antlerless deer to help reduce the deer population. Estimated deer numbers for this year are still well above the desired level. A smaller deer herd is in the best interest of both deer and their habitats in southern Michigan. Hunters are also encouraged to bring in their deer or deer head to one of the approximately 90 deer check stations around the state. These stations help evaluate and monitor Michigan's deer herd and provide important biological information to the MDNR. In addition, hunters can now purchase hunting and fishing licenses, special hunt applications and permits 24 hours a day, 7 days a week within applicable sales dates through the MDNR's E-License system featured on their website at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

**ALTERNATIVES TO LEAF BURNING** The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is encouraging residents to consider alternatives to leaf burning this fall. In addition to being illegal in many Michigan cities and communities, burning leaves creates air pollution, contributes to breathing problems and is a serious fire hazard. When burned, leaves release toxic particles into the air that may be harmful to children and people with allergies, asthma or heart disease. Since leaves cannot be sent to landfills, the DEQ suggests residents mow over yard leaves with lawn mowers in order to chop them into fine mulch. This mulch will then provide needed nutrients for the grass that will keep it looking healthy. Urban residents should also check to see if their community has any municipal composting programs. Rural residents are reminded that, while burning yard waste is allowed, permits are required to burn leaves or brush. For more information on burning permits, or for those interested in developing an open burning ordinance for their community, visit the [www.michigan.gov/deqair](http://www.michigan.gov/deqair) website.

**DO YOU HAVE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY?** The Michigan Department of Treasury holds millions of dollars in lost or forgotten assets from dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks, valuables in safe deposit boxes or stock certificates. Michigan law requires properties that are abandoned and unclaimed by the bank or company entrusted with them to be turned over to the State. The Michigan Treasury is the custodian of these assets and returns them to their owners (or the owners' heirs) when they are rightfully claimed. Therefore, residents could find they have money or other assets waiting to be claimed. To see if your name appears on any list of unclaimed property, visit the Department of Treasury's website at [www.michigan.gov/treasury](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury) and click on the "unclaimed property" link on the right sidebar.

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If you would like to receive future issues of Hammerstrom's Hotline via e-mail,  
please contact me at [SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov)